

Jackrabbit Mountain Recreation Area



Bordering the 13-mile long Chatuge Lake, Jackrabbit Mountain Recreation Area is a great mountain getaway and offers plenty of outdoor recreation, from water sports to hiking to camping.

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Nantahala National Forest
Tusquitee Ranger District



Jackrabbit Mountain Recreation Area offers this beach that borders Chatuge Lake.

Attractions

Jackrabbit Mountain Trail: This easy trail loops for 2.4 miles through open woods and offers glimpses of Chatuge Lake.

Fires Creek Recreation Area: This area offers hiking, picnicking, horseback riding, and fishing. The 26-mile Rim Trail follows the mountain rims that surround Fires Creek. A favorite short trail is the 0.7-mile loop to Leatherwood Falls.

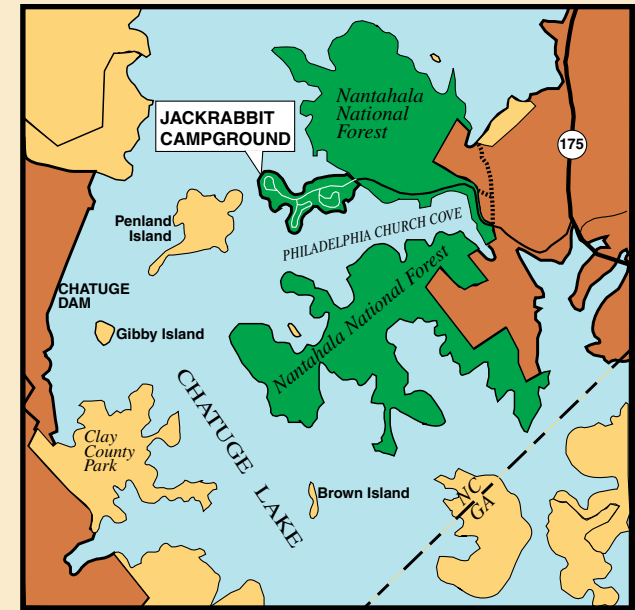
To access Fires Creek from Jackrabbit, go north on NC 175. Turn left on U.S. 64. Go 6.2 miles to Hayesville. Turn right on U.S. 64 Business and left on SR 1307. Go 1 mile and turn left on SR 1300. Travel 5 miles and turn right on FR 340. Trailhead is 1.8 miles ahead.

Marinas: Located on Chatuge Lake are several marinas that rent boats and other small craft. For more details, call the Clay County Chamber of Commerce at 828-389-3704.



A camper relaxes at one of the wooded sites.

Chunky Gal Trail: About 14 miles east on U.S. 64, the 21-mile Chunky Gal Trail crosses the highway. Chunky Gal Trail crosses Chunky Gal Mountain and connects with the Appalachian Trail with the north end of River Trail.



DIRECTIONS TO JACKRABBIT:

From Asheville: Take I-40W to exit 27 and exit onto U.S. 19/23/74. Travel southwest past Sylva and exit onto U.S. 23/441 toward Franklin. In Franklin, take U.S. 64W and travel 31 miles to NC 175. Turn left, and go 2.5 miles on NC 175. Turn right on SR 1155 to the recreation area.

From Hayesville: Take U.S. 64E for 6.2 miles. Turn right onto NC 175, and go 2.5 miles. Turn right on SR 1155.

From Hiawasse, Ga.: Take GA-75N for about 3.5 miles to the NC/GA State line, where it turns into NC 175. Proceed 1.5 miles and turn left onto SR 1155.

FOR MAPS & INFORMATION:

Tusquitee Ranger District
123 Woodland Drive
Murphy, NC 28905
828-837-5152

WEB SITE: cs.unca.edu/nfsnc

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Jackrabbit Surroundings

Jack Rabbit Mountain Recreation Area lies on a peninsula of Chatuge Lake—a man-made reservoir that boasts more than 130 miles of shoreline and plenty of water for recreation.

Chatuge Lake is touted as the crown jewel of Tennessee Valley Authority's system of lakes and is an impoundment of the Hiwassee River. Similar to a Swiss alpine lake setting,

The lake is filled with a bounty of fish, from spotted, white and striped bass to catfish, crappie and sunfish.

Jackrabbit Features

Open May 1- Oct. 31, Jackrabbit Mountain Recreation Area offers picnicking, swimming, boating and fishing. Three loops with 101 sites for tent or trailer camping are available. The campground is suited for car camping. No hook-ups are available for RVs.

- Each site has a picnic table, fire grill, tent platform, and parking spur.
- A two-vehicle-wide boat ramp where boats are launched into Chatuge Lake.
- Accessible flush toilets, hot showers and drinking water are available
- Two picnic shelters are provided.

CAMPING FEES ON LOOPS A&B: At a cost of \$15 per site, campsites on these loops are reserved under a reservation system. To make a reservation: call 877-444-6777, TDD: 877-833-6777 or visit: reserveUSA.com.

CAMPING FEES ON LOOP C: All sites on Loop C are under a first-come first served basis until 2006. The fee is \$15 per site.

FOR MORE DETAILS: Call the Tusqueetee Ranger District in Murphy at 828-837-5152.

